any of the Kendriya Vidyalayas has been received in the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (Headquarters).

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Supply of Thionylchloride by Indian Companies to Iran

1880. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY :
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA :
KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN:
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian manufacturer has supplied to Iran, Iraq and Egypt 257 tonnes of Thionylchloride which could be used for manufacturer of chemical weapons as alleged by Bush Administration, if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) whether the report about the supply of the chemical is correct; and

(c) whether Government have taken up the issue with the Government of United States ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) and (b). An Indian firm had entered into a contract with a UAE company for the supply of 257 tonnes of Thionyl Chloride. This chemical, which is a widely traded commodity, has many industrial uses such as the manufacture of pesticides, engineering plastics and as chlorinating agents and catalysts. It can also be used for the manufacture of chemical weapons. Its export is not banned under any international agreement. According to the information received by us, the Indian firm had entered into an export contract after obtaining an end-use certificate to the effect that the chemical would be used for permitted industrial purposes.

(c) The question of Government taking up the issue with the Government of United States does not arise.

Sale of GHN-45 Cannons by Austria to Pakistan

1881. SHRI KAPIL VERMA :
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Austria is about to sell to Pakistan a number of GHN-45 cannons through its state-owned Howitzer-maker NORICUM;

(b) whether this was the cannon which India had refused in favour of Bofors; and

(c) whether the issue is being taken up by India with Austrian Government ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Government have seen press reports on this subject.

(b) In 1984, the Autrian manufacturers had proposed the supply of a weapon described as GHN-45. This was a 155 mm field Howitzer It is not known whether, in terms of design, manufacture or performance an identical weapon has been offered to Pakistan.

(c) Government keeps a constant watch on such issues and invariably takes them up with the concerned countries through diplomatic channels as and when necessary.

Preparation of Panel of Teachers by K.V.S. in violation of Govt. Norms

1882. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the length of the panel of Government employees selected for direct recruitment cannot be more than the number of vacancies advertised;

(b) if so whether it is also a fact that Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has violated their instructions while preparing